



BIOGRAPHY

Department of Defense

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

740 O'Malley Road MS 9121, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-3399

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COLONEL MARY ANN EPPS

Colonel Mary Ann Epps is the Air National Guard Advisor to the Commandant of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. She is responsible and provides guidance to the Commandant for all matters pertaining to the Air National Guard. She serves as an adjunct member of the Mobile Training Team which provides world wide Equal Opportunity training. Colonel Epps represents the Reserve components on the DEOMI Executive Quality Council and represents DEOMI on the Air National Guard Human Relations Quality Board.

Colonel Epps started her military career by enlisting in the Connecticut Air National Guard in June 1976 and received a commission as a 1st Lieutenant in 1977. Colonel Epps has been a member of the 103rd Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard for 23 years. She is the first African American and the first female to achieve the rank of colonel in the history of the Connecticut Air National Guard. The position held prior to this assignment was that of Medical Squadron Commander for six years. She is currently a member of Governor John Rowlands' Military Staff.



Colonel Epps has balanced her military service with a civilian career in Perioperative Nursing at major medical centers. She was one of the first nurses in Connecticut to become certified in her specialty and has maintained her certification for 20 years. During her 30 years in Perioperative Nursing the administrative positions held include Assistant Director of a 10-room operating room suite, head nurse, and eight years as a Perioperative Nursing instructor. She is licensed in two states.

CIVILIAN EDUCATION

- 1963 St Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, Pittsfield, Massachusetts
- 1981 Bachelor of Science, Human Services, New Hampshire College, Manchester New Hampshire

PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION

- 1986 Executive Nursing Management Course, Andrews AFB, Maryland
- 1987 Battlefield Nursing Course, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
- 1989 Reserve Officers Course, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
- 1990 Senior Nursing Management Course, Andrews AFB, Maryland
- 1991 Squadron Commanders Course, McGhee Tyson ANG Base, Tennessee
- 1994 Air War College in Residence, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
- 1996 Health Service Executive Management, Andrews AFB, Maryland
- 1997 Equal Opportunity Advisors Course, DEOMI, Patrick AFB, Florida

ASSIGNMENTS

1976- 1997 103rd Fighter Wing ,Bradley ANG Base, East Granby, Connecticut
1997- Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute Patrick AFB, Florida

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Meritorious Service
Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal
National Defense Service Medal
Connecticut Medal of Merit
Longevity Service Award (4 Devices)
Outstanding Unit Award (2 Devices)
Leadership Award, Southern Connecticut Black Nurses Association
University of Connecticut Health Center Employee of the Month
University of Connecticut Health Center Minority Achievement Award

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

1st Lieutenant	February 26, 1977
Captain	February 26, 1978
Major	February 26, 1985
LtCol	September 9, 1989
Colonel	December 23, 1994

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
Chi Eta Phi Sorority
Association of Operating Room Nurses
Air Force Association, Life Member
National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)
Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS)
Association of Air Guard Nurses, Life Member
National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT)
Connecticut Minority Guard Association
Officers Club of Connecticut